

CREATIVE MACHINE

Embroidery

INSPIRATION & TECHNIQUES
FOR DIGITIZED DESIGNS

Patio Perfection

Update your outdoor
decor with a **FREE**
cactus design



Beautiful Bouquet
Tags P. 14

—
Custom Dorm
Decor P. 28

—
Cool Cork
Accessories P. 47



FREE
boxy linen blouse
pattern P. 44

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CREATIVE MACHINE Embroidery

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Managing Editor **Kate Zaynard**
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Technical Editor **Kim Saba**

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Graphic Designer **Jessica Hughes**
Embroidery Designs **Jessica Ziebarth, Ramona Baird**
Photography **Molly Stevenson**
Illustrator **Nathan Ziebarth**
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Newsstand Sales **Scott T. Hill**
Scott.hill@pubworx.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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a note from the editor

Dear Readers,

We work fairly far ahead on our issues, so I'm writing this at the end of 2019... and it's *cold* outside! But working on this issue is a way for me to look forward to summer, which is my favorite time of year. As I cuddle a little closer to my space heater, I can dream about when you'll be working on the projects you'll find in these pages and embrace the warmth of the coming summer.

I love summer, except for one thing: mosquitos! They love me, but I do not feel the same way about them. This is why I'm so fond of the Patio Posh project — I love the idea of hanging a pretty, embroidered mosquito net around a chair on my porch so I can enjoy the warm summer air without being eaten alive. Combine it with the perfect-for-outdoors (or indoors) placemat-and-napkin set featuring our exclusive *CME* Succulent Chic Collection on page 50, and I can't imagine ever wanting to go inside again!

Summer fashion is always fun to explore, and you'll find a wealth of embroidered looks to replicate in this issue. I love the Pagosa Pants pattern, and adding pretty floral embroidery only makes it better. Find out how on page 24. If the large-scale designs are a little much for you, check out the Boxy Blooms Blouse on page 44. The delicate flower borders are the perfect addition to a lightweight linen Antero Shell. We've got you covered on accessories, too; find a pretty embroidered faux-suede Fennel Fanny Pack on page 38 and a set of snazzy cuff bracelets on page 47.

As much as I'm excited for summer, some people are already looking forward to fall, when new grads head off to college. At least you should be thinking about it already if you want to make everything in our cool dorm set — coordinating pillows, towels and a handy clothes hamper make a lovely gift to send with them as they head off on their adventure. Or make it for a younger child; it's a great way to refresh a bedroom's décor without having to fully redecorate. Find the set and all the instructions starting on page 28.

There are plenty of other great projects and techniques to be discovered in this issue. I'm ready for summer! I hope you are, too, and that your season is full of embroidery fun and inspiration.

Happy Stitching,
Kate Zaynard and the *CME* Team



Coming Attractions

Embrace autumn with a cozy cardigan featuring brightly-colored leaves, create a pillow featuring a cute fox, dive into 3D embroidery and elevate a favorite garment pattern with your favorite embellishment technique. Find all this and more in the Fall 2020 issue of *CME*, on newsstands Aug. 11, 2020.

Check out the **SEW & TELL** Podcast, featuring the *CME* editors! Find it on iTunes or wherever you get your podcasts.





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tips & tricks

METALLIC MAGIC

When using metallic thread, place a piece of wax paper under the hooped stabilizer to allow the metallic needle to easily glide through the fabric and prevent thread breakage.

Melody H., Facebook

RELIABLE RUBBER BANDS

Wrap a large produce or industrial-size rubber band around the outer edge of the inner hoop. It holds slippery fabric taut in the hoop to prevent slipping during embroidery.

Lena A., Facebook



ACCURATE APPLIQUÉ

Before trimming loosely woven fabric appliqués, apply a thin line of seam sealant along the outer stitching line to prevent loose threads from poking through the finished design.

Meg W., email



Visit **sewdaily.com**

for more techniques
and tricks to inspire
your embroidery.

WRAP MASTER

Store a wrapping paper cutter or envelope opener with stabilizer rolls to quickly and easily cut pieces of stabilizer to any size.

Patti L., email

SOFTEN UP

When removing water-soluble stabilizer from freestanding lace designs, add a drop or two of fabric softener to the water to soften the lace.

Bertha G., email



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and embroidery tips to
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them on our Facebook page for your
chance to win a fabulous prize.



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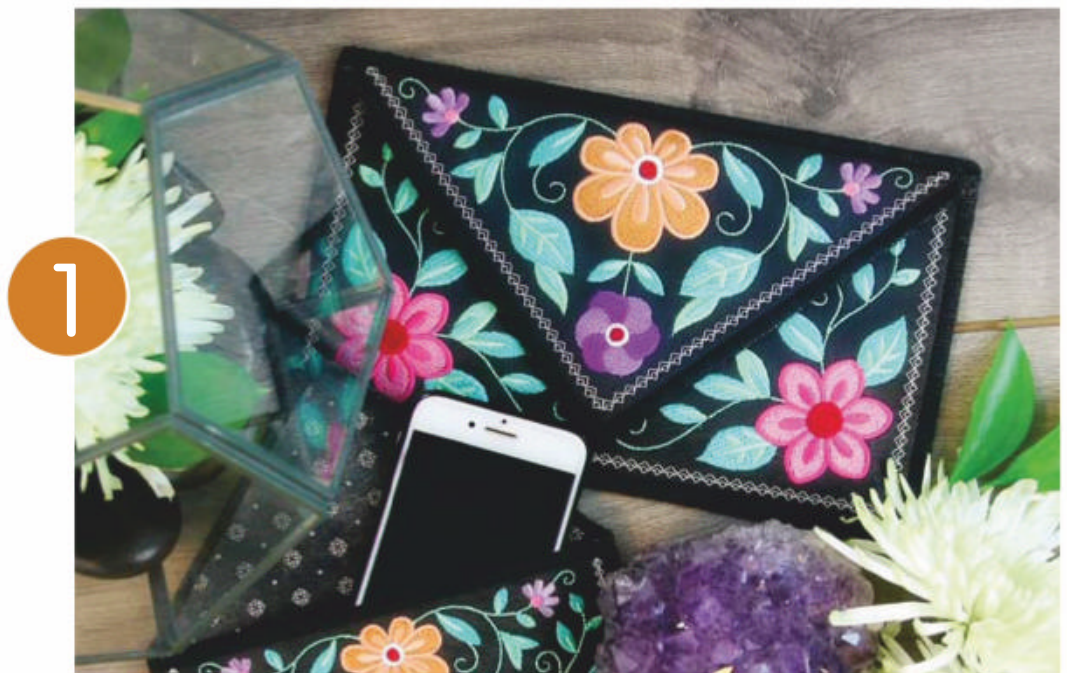


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must haves

the latest & greatest tools & designs

1. Stitch an ornate envelope clutch in the hoop with the **Bohemian Blooms Leather Clutch** design. Available in three sizes to fit your style, this little bag is designed to be stitched in leather, vinyl, cork or any material that doesn't fray. Detailed instructions teach you how to stitch it and includes tips on successfully stitching the project. Wouldn't this be a lovely addition to a date-night outfit? **(\$5.99-\$7.99; urbanthreads.com)**



2. Get into the cactus trend with the **CME exclusive Succulent Chic Collection**. This collection of succulent-inspired designs can be "dressed" up or down—they're cute and casual or elegant and classy depending on how they're used. Stitch them on home décor items (they'd be great on pillows or towels) or use one as the perfect southwestern accent on a bag or garment. Imagine what you could do with this collection and a denim skirt!

(\$19.99; interweave.com/sewing)

3. Make your appliqué a little easier with **Roxanne Glue Stick**. This non-toxic, odorless glue is perfect for positioning appliqué in place, or use it to secure projects to stabilizer for hoopless embroidery. It dries fast and clear and is water soluble, so it disappears on the project's first wash. It's also handy to have around when sewing and quilting; it can be used in place of pins for a whole range of applications.

(\$6.62; colonialneedle.com)



3



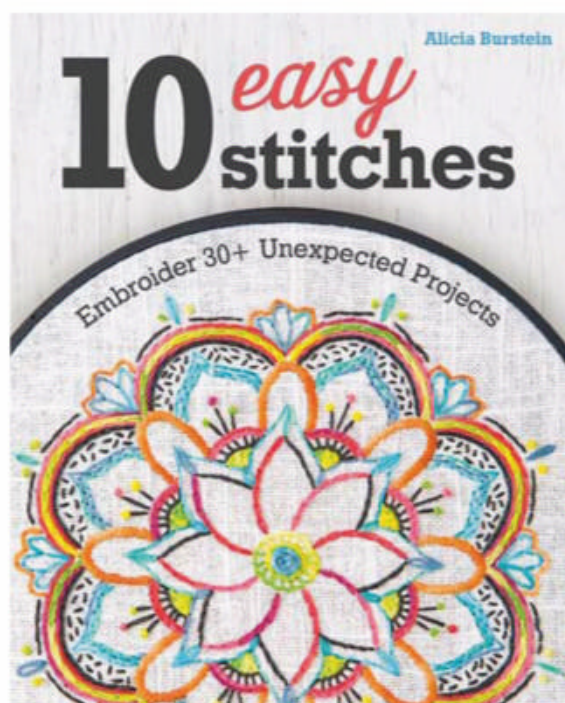
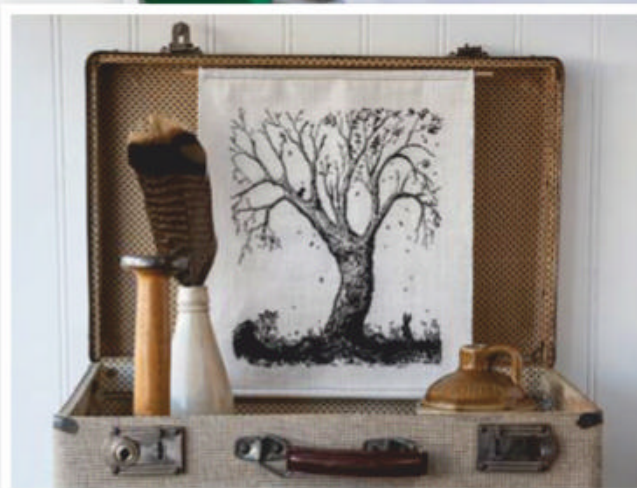
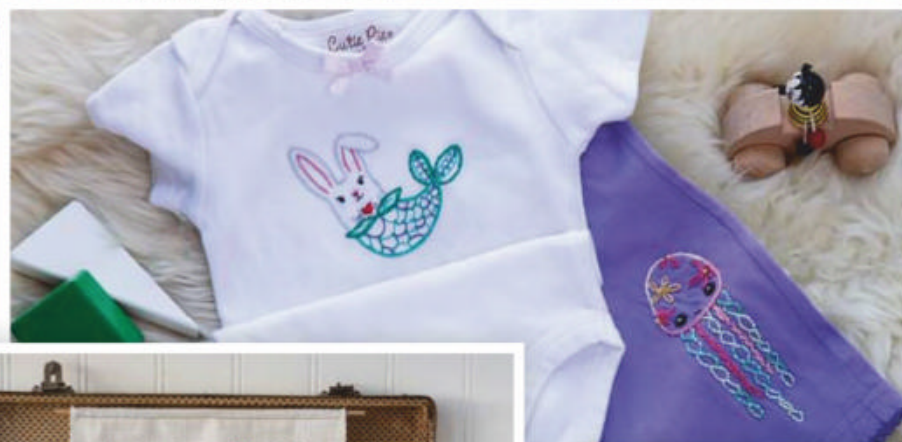
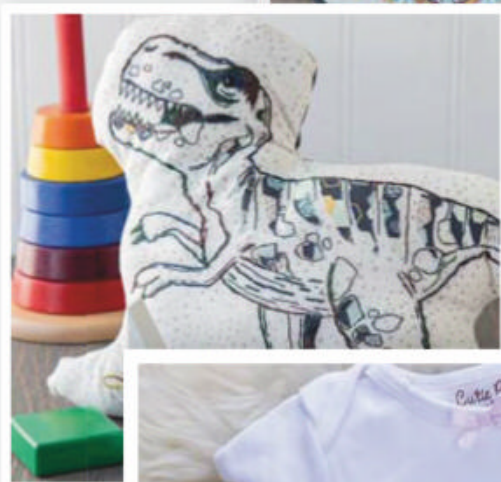
4



4. Looking for a new machine that's out of this world? Brother's **LB5000S Star Wars Edition Computerized Sewing & Embroidery Machine** is just that! This machine is equipped with 3 different interchangeable faceplates so you can easily switch between sewing with Darth Vader, Princess Leia and R2-D2. Not only can you sew with them, you can embroider them too with the included Star Wars embroidery designs to make patches, apparel and costumes.
(\$499.99; brother.com)

5. Relax and embroider with ease this summer using these **10 Easy Stitches** to create 30+ embroidered projects. This is not your average embroidery book – author Alicia Burstein expands the boundaries of contemporary hand embroidery with super fast ideas for the impatient sewist and intricate motifs for those who like to take their time. You could even master these hand embroidery stitches on a portable project to keep your hands busy during a summer road trip or vacation.
(\$24.95; ctpub.com)

5



6. You know what they say: new project, new needle – so for your next machine embroidery project you may want to consider a **SUPER NonStick Needle** from SCHMETZ. Available in 4 different sizes, these extra-large eyed needles feature a non-stick coating of NIT (Nickel-Phosphor-PTFE) that make them slide through thick fabrics easily for perfect machine embroidery stitching. Their distinctive scarf with special design also prevents skipped stitches! **(\$6.99; euronotions.com)**



7. No one can resist the cuteness that is Baby Yoda, and now you can embroider him on everything with this **Baby Dagobanian Embroidery Design**. Imagine everything from hats to purses to tea towels – how can you not smile at anything this is embroidered on? This design is available in a range of sizes so you get a perfectly stitched out design. **(etsy.com/shop/embroiderybysyvella)**

8. Elevate your next project with **Heirloom Embroidery from Brian Haggard**. This book is complete with 225+ iron-on designs, making it easy to rip them out and transfer to quilts, embroidery hangings and more! If you are into florals, birds or bees, this book includes elegant designs in all these areas that you can copy multiple times. These would even transfer beautifully to garments like pocket flaps, collars, or any accent you want to add an extra-special touch to. **(\$19.99; ctpub.com)**



Embroidery Sprays

Discover the wide range of spray products available to assist with your embroidery, from adhesives to stabilizers.

SPRAY ADHESIVE USE

Spray adhesives are advantageous when stitching small items such as collars, cuffs, socks and any item not easily hooped. The pieces can be easily adhered to the stabilizer, which is hooped first.

In addition, spray adhesives are great for fabrics that might develop hoop burn (the mark of the hoop left after hoop removal); securing toppers or stabilizer to the fabric before hooping; stabilizing stretch fabrics; holding two or more layers of stabilizers together or adhering appliqué fabrics.

SPRAY STABILIZER USE

Spray stabilizers can be used to stiffen light fabrics. Spray starch, spray sizing and spray finishes can also be used as alternatives. Always test-apply spray stabilizers to fabric before beginning a project.

Spray stabilizers hold fabric, both knit and woven, firm during the hooping process to add weight and support to the fabric, but they must be washed out completely afterwards. They work for most washable fabrics that need stability and will also hold cotton, voile, chiffon and other soft fabrics firm while embroidering.





tip

Most spray adhesives are aerosol products. A few come with a pump spray.

SPRAY TYPES

- Temporary spray adhesives can make any stabilizer sticky. They are good for use on difficult-to-hoop items such as towels, heavily napped fabrics and items too small to hoop. Or, they can be used to prevent shifting while hooping and embroidering. Spray on, and then position when the surface is tacky. They disappear within one to five days without leaving a stain or launder out leaving no residue. (With some products, using a warm iron will reactivate the glue.)
- Permanent repositionable spray adhesives can be used or repositioned several times without re-spraying the surface. It does not transfer onto the receiving surface. (It's similar to a self-adhesive note pad.) Spray on, then wait five minutes and press firmly to join any two surfaces. Spraying several times in short bursts, rather than one heavy spraying, produces a stronger bond.
- Water-soluble spray stabilizer can be sprayed on woven, washable fabric from 2" to 6" away. Allow to dry or use a hair dryer to speed drying time. When almost dry but not sticky, use a dry iron to completely remove moisture and wrinkles and give a crisp finish. Rinse in lukewarm running water to remove.

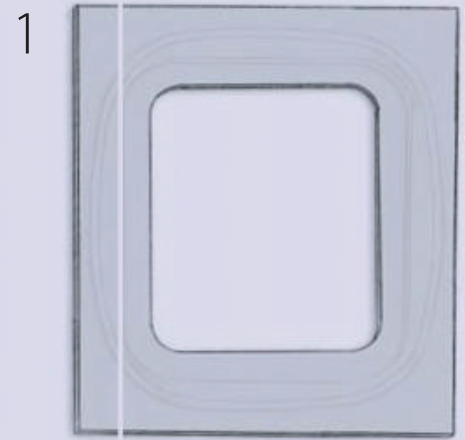




WORKING WITH SPRAYS

Follow these guidelines when working with sprays.

- Work on a protected surface or spray in a box to catch overspray.
- Shake the container before using.
- Spray lightly on the stabilizer rather than on the item to be embroidered.
- Hold the can about 6" to 12" from the surface.
- Some products are toxic. Use sprays in a well-ventilated area. Do not use if you suffer from upper respiratory illnesses.
- Use a cardboard template to protect the hoop. Cut a rectangle of paper, lightweight cardboard or plastic twice the size of the hoop. Cut a



window about ½" smaller all around than your hoop size in the center of the rectangle. Place the template firmly over the hoop to expose the area to be sprayed (1). Place the protected hoop in the box.

tip

Water-soluble spray stabilizer can be used by spraying on a laminated sheet, letting dry and lifting to form a cellophane-like surface to use as a stabilizer.

- Liquid fabric stabilizers make soft fabrics firm. They come in bottles and should be transferred to pump spray containers. Some need to be diluted; others can be used at full strength. They are economical and wash out completely. For large areas, immerse the fabric in a container of diluted liquid stabilizer. For small areas, apply with a paintbrush or cotton ball. Allow to air dry or use a hair dryer to speed up the process. Finish

drying by pressing with an iron at the temperature appropriate for the fabric. Avoid pressing when wet, as the fabric will stick to the press cloth or iron. Remove by rinsing with mild soap in warm to hot water; roll in a towel to remove water and press or air-dry.

- Spray-on fusible web can be used on any stabilizer to make it fusible. Spray and then wait two to three minutes until it is no longer tacky. Use a medium dry iron to adhere fabric to the sprayed stabilizer.
- Spray cleaning agent is for the removal of adhesive residue. It is not to be used on fabric. It can be used on hoops, needles, frames, plastic, metal, glass, stone and ceramic surfaces. Position the can approximately 10" from the surface. Spray both the surface to be cleaned and the cleaning cloth. Allow the solvent to stand for 30 seconds, then wipe off the

adhesive. Repeat if there is a heavy build-up and/or use a brush to speed up the process.

- Fabric protectant spray protects fabrics from ultraviolet light rays, water, dust and dirt, spills, grease and oil. It can safely be used on most fabrics, including quilts, fabric covered furniture, upholstery, bedspreads, cushions, drapes and clothing. While it can be laundered and dry cleaned, reapplication may be necessary for full protection.
- Silicon spray eliminates sticking while drying fast with no greasy or oily film. It keeps vinyl and other difficult-to-work-with fabrics from sticking to the presser foot and bed of the machine. ⓘ

SOURCES

Sullivan & Co: sullivans.net.

Terial Magic Liquid Fabric Stabilizer: terialmagic.com.

in the hoop

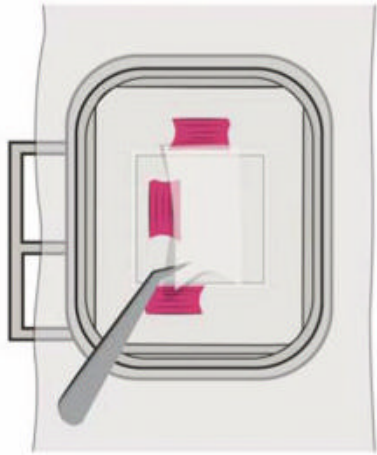
Bouquet Tags

BY RAMONA BAIRD

Add an embroidered greeting to make a vase of flowers or a potted plant extra special. A layer of vinyl protects the embroidery from splashing water and includes a pocket to hold a popsicle stick for placement into the soil.



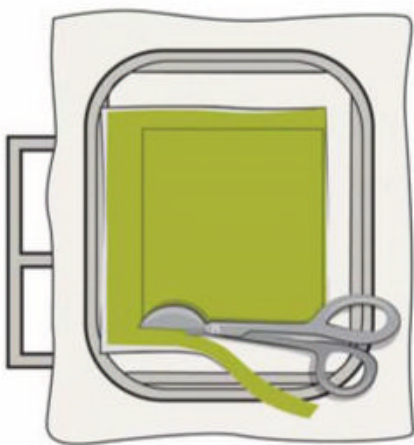
A



B



C



MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to make one bouquet tag.

- + 6" square of white cotton fabric (for front)
- + 6" square of colored cotton fabric (for back)
- + Two 6" squares of white felt
- + ¼ yard of clear vinyl
- + 5x7 hoop
- + Water-soluble stabilizer
- + No-show mesh stabilizer (see "Sources.")
- + Embroidery thread
- + Embroidery tape
- + Appliqué scissors
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Chopstick or popsicle stick

PREPARE

- Download the Bouquet Tag embroidery designs from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Load the desired design onto the embroidery machine.
- From the vinyl, cut two 6" squares and a 2"x6" rectangle.

EMBROIDER

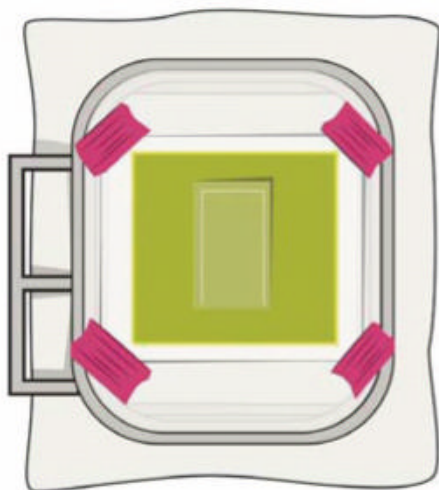
- To stitch the vinyl back piece, hoop one layer of water-soluble stabilizer. Stitch step one to create the placement line.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and secure one 6" vinyl square over the placement line with pieces of embroidery tape.
- Center the 2"x6" piece of vinyl vertically over the vinyl square **(A)**. Place the hoop back on the machine and stitch step two to tack the two pieces of vinyl together, creating a pocket for

the stick with an opening at the bottom. Remove the piece from the hoop, and trim away the water-soluble stabilizer. Trim the smaller piece of vinyl close to the stitching and across the opening.

- Hoop a piece of mesh stabilizer. Stitch step three to create a placement line. Place a piece of white felt over the placement line, followed by the 6" square of colored fabric for the back **(B)**. Stitch step four to tack the felt and fabric to the stabilizer.
- Remove the hoop from the machine. Using appliqué scissors, trim the felt and fabric close to the stitching line **(C)**. Place the hoop back on the machine and stitch step five to create the satin border. Remove the fabric from the hoop and trim the stabilizer close to the outside border.
- Hoop a piece of mesh stabilizer. Stitch step six to create the placement line. Remove the hoop from the machine. Place the remaining felt square over the placement line, followed by the square of white fabric. Place the hoop back on the machine, and stitch step seven to tack the felt and fabric to the stabilizer.
- Following the color sequence, stitch the floral design. Before stitching the last two colors, remove the hoop from the machine and trim away the excess fabric and felt close to the tacking stitching. Place the hoop back on the machine. Stitch the second to the last color to create the satin border.
- Remove the hoop from the machine (but do not remove the fabric from the hoop) and flip the hoop to the wrong side. Lightly spray the wrong side of the back piece with spray adhesive, and place it wrong side down over the back of the hoop, matching the satin edges.



E



Center the back vinyl piece over the back piece. Be sure the opening for the stick is facing toward the bottom of the hoop **(E)**.

- Flip the hoop to the right side. Center the remaining piece of vinyl over the front of the embroidery and secure in place with embroidery tape. Place the hoop back on the machine and load a bobbin with the same color thread used for the satin stitching.
- Using the same thread color in the needle and bobbin, stitch the last color of the design to tack the vinyl pieces together, just outside of the satin border.

FINISH

- Remove the piece from the hoop and very carefully trim all the layers next to the outermost stitching line, being careful not to cut into the stitching.
- Place the stick into the vinyl pocket on the back. 🧵

DESIGN

Download the Bouquet Tags designs from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Find the designs after the expiration at interweave.com/sewing.

SOURCE

Floriani provided the No-Show Mesh stabilizer; rnk-floriani.com.

RNK provided the Embroidery Perfection Tape; rnkdistributing.com.

quilt this

Heirloom Look Embroidery

BY NANCY FIEDLER

Machine embroidery that mimics hand stitching adds an extra layer of dimension to quilts and home-décor projects.





SUCCESSFUL HAND-LOOK EMBROIDERY

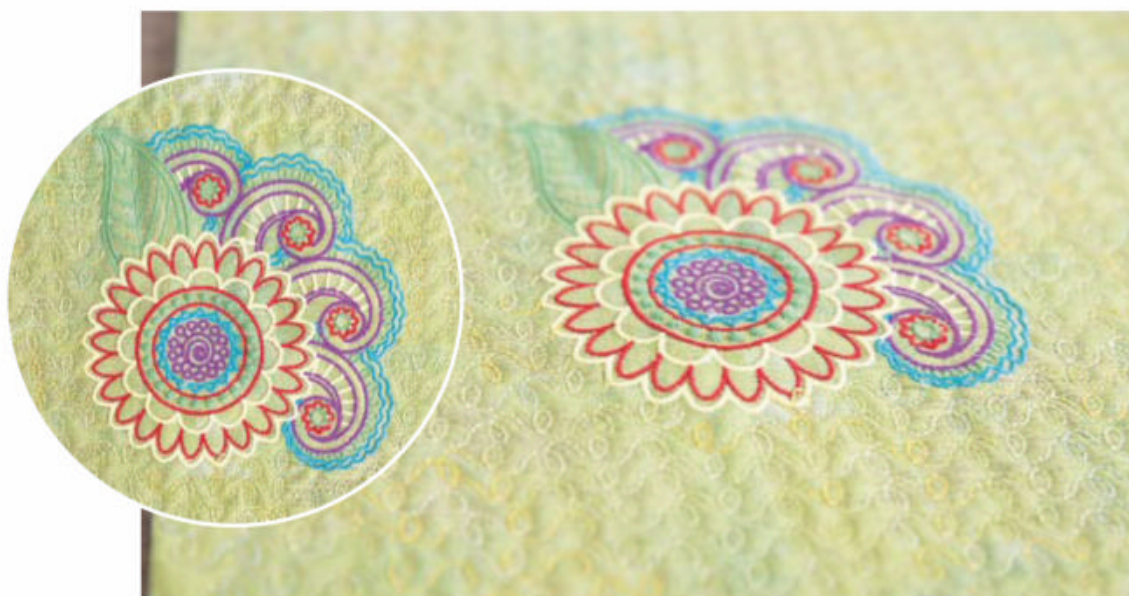
- Use liquid or water-soluble stabilizer. Using water to remove stabilizers will prevent stabilizer shadows and distortion of stitches caused by tearing stabilizer away.
- When embroidering with cotton thread, slow the machine speed to 400 stitches per minute. Slower speed will prevent thread breakage.
- Use 80/12 topstitch needles with cotton thread. The larger eye will help prevent shredding.



Creating embroidery that looks hand stitched with your embroidery machine is simple when you know the tricks.

Look for designs with simple outlines and shapes referred to as line work, as these will appear more “hand stitched” than design with intricate fills.


As you begin your research, search for embroidery collections with “Sashiko” and “vintage” in the name. Redwork design collections are another good starting place.



You can increase the hand-stitched look with the right embroidery thread selection. Use cotton or matte-finish embroidery thread. Your embroidery will have a flat instead of shiny finish which will add to that hand-look detail.

Some embroidery projects easily lend themselves to a hand-look design, such as the following:



- Repurposed vintage quilt blocks.
- Sashiko-inspired home décor.
- Simple elements added to a pieced quilt. 



DESIGNS

Hot Pad: RNK Distributing, Pop Paisley Collection; rnkdistributing.com

Linework stitchouts: OESD, Baby Woodland Collection; embroideryonline.com

Pillows: DIME, Vintage Paisley Collection; inspiredbydime.com

Table runner: OESD, Sashiko 2 Collection; embroideryonline.com

Wallhanging: Sew Swell, DesignsFree Circle of Flowers Collection; sewswell.com





Fabric Foray: Oilcloth

BY CHERYL STRANGES

Learn tips for stitching oilcloth to ensure successful embroidery stitchouts.

OILCLOTH BASICS

Originally, oilcloth was used for functionality over fashion purposes. It was made from cotton or linen fabric that was treated with oil, making it durable, strong and water-resistant.

Today, oilcloth can be used for fashion purposes, as a variety of different colors, prints and weights are available. Most oilcloth types are made from woven cotton fabric that's treated with a PVC coating. The fabric is great for making patio accessories, handbags, small purses, hats, belts, table runners and more.

Make biodegradable oilcloth by purchasing heavyweight cotton fabric. Stretch the fabric over a large flat surface to create a large rectangle; secure the corners using pattern weights. Draw a pattern or design onto the fabric using fabric dyes and oil paints, if desired. Let the paint or dye dry, and then brush linseed oil over the entire fabric surface. Let the fabric dry outdoors for several days, if applicable, so the fabric dries thoroughly. Repeat to apply fabric paint or dye and linseed oil two to three additional times, letting the fabric dry between applications.

Wipe oilcloth clean using a damp cloth and soapy water; dry using a soft cloth. Don't overly expose oilcloth to sunlight because it can fade the fabric over time.



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SEWING TIPS

- Don't pin oilcloth, as pinning creates permanent holes in the fabric. Use transparent tape or pattern weights to secure fabric layers instead.
- Use a new size 90/14 sharp needle for light- to mediumweight varieties. Use a new size 100/16 sharp needle for heavyweight varieties.
- Mark the fabric using a chalk marker or an air-soluble fabric marker.
- Use a longer stitch length to prevent excessive needle penetrations.
- Use a PTFE foot to easily guide the fabric through the machine. If using a standard presser foot, cover the foot wrong side with masking tape for easier stitching.
- Oilcloth doesn't fray, so finished edges aren't necessary.
- Finger-press seams instead of pressing to prevent melting the fabric. ⓘ

DESIGNS

Florals: Built-in designs from the Designer Diamond Deluxe sewing and embroidery machine; husqvarnaviking.com

Fruit: CME exclusive Fun & Fruity Collection; interweave.com/sewing

MAKE IT IN OILCLOTH

Oilcloth is a fantastic fabric to sew with and embroider. It's a fabric that gives projects an instant vintage charm. Take the techniques you've learned here and consider making the following to spruce up your summer entertaining space.

- An embroidered oilcloth tote for the beach or pool
- Embellished oilcloth pillows for your front porch
- Customized oilcloth chair covers
- Washable bowl covers, like those featured here from the March/April 2017 issue of *Creative Machine Embroidery*
- A personalized gardening apron with tons of handy pockets
- An easy monogrammed lunch tote for summer outings
- Embroidered and pieced picnic blanket
- Reusable sandwich and food bags
- Bench seat cover for pets
- Easy buckle bike tote
- All manner of embroidered tablecloths and placemats for one-of-a-kind outdoor entertaining

And ***more!***





Pocket Full of Poppies

BY STACY SCHLYER

Add some pop to your summer wardrobe! Learn how to create a chic summer look with a pair of wide-legged, belted pants embellished with poppy embroidery.

MATERIALS

- + Wide-leg woven pants (such as Sew News Pagosa Pants; see “Source.”)
- + Linen fabric & notions (amount according to the pattern instructions)
- + Cut-away stabilizer
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Hand-sewing needle
- + Removable fabric marker
- + Poppies design & border (approximately 4¾"x5½" & 5½"x6"; see “Designs.”)

PREPARE

- Cut out the wide-leg pant pattern pieces according to your measurements.
- From the linen fabric, cut out the pattern pieces.
- Mark the seam allowances on all pieces using a removable fabric marker.

EMBROIDER

- Position one pocket right side up on a flat work surface. Find the pocket vertical and horizontal centerpoint between the seam allowances; pin-mark. Designate as the design placement.

- Hoop a piece of cut-away stabilizer and the pocket, centering the design placement marking within the hoop.
- Load the poppy design onto the machine.
- Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the design, changing thread colors as desired. Remove the hoop from the machine. Cut away the excess stabilizer from the design perimeter.
- Repeat to embroider the remaining pocket, making sure to mirror the design on the machine screen before stitching.





- Attach the pockets to the pants front following the pattern instructions.
- Stitch the pants front and back along each side seam. Press each leg hem allowance toward the wrong side. Finish the hem following the pattern instructions.
- Position one pant leg open and right side up on a flat work surface.
- Measure the distance between the leg front and back inseam seam allowance along the lower edge; record. Divide the measurement in half; record as the vertical centerpoint.
- Mark the vertical centerpoint on the pants lower edge. Mark $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the pants lower edge along the vertical centerpoint; designate as the design lower-edge placement.
- Hoop a piece of cut-away stabilizer and the pants, centering the design placement within the hoop.

- Load the poppy border design onto the machine.
- Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the design, changing thread colors as desired. Remove the hoop from the machine. Cut away the excess stabilizer from the design perimeter.
- To find the placement for the remaining border designs, align the front inseam seam allowance marking to the adjacent completed design edge to create a fold. Finger-press the fold; designate as the vertical centerpoint. Mark $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the pants lower edge along the vertical centerpoint; designate as the design lower-edge placement.
- Repeat to determine the pants back design placement **(A)**.

CONSTRUCT

- Stitch the pants inseam and crotch with right sides together, making sure the leg lower edges properly align.
- If the inseam seam allowances don't lay flat at the lower edges, hand tack them into place.
- Finish constructing the pants following the pattern instructions, excluding the pants hem. 🧵

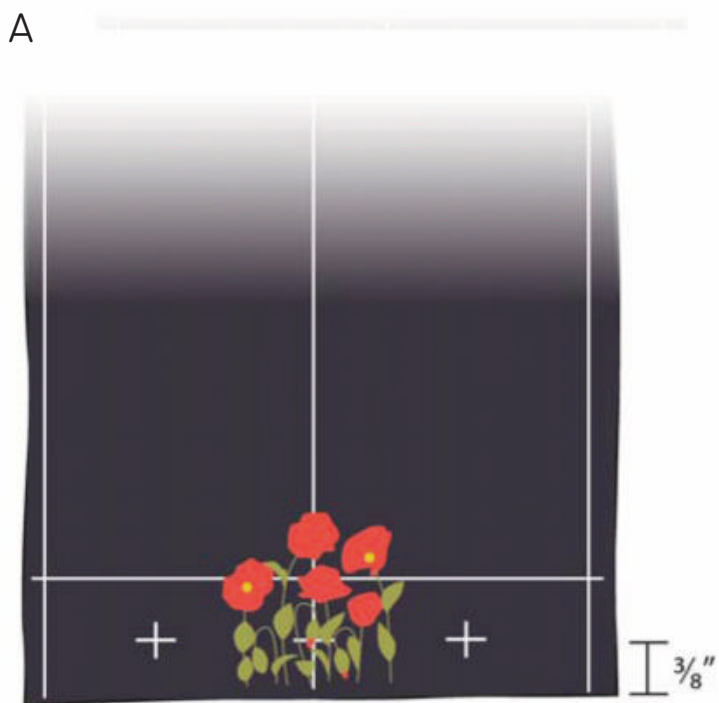
DESIGNS

Poppy border: Royal Present Embroidery, Poppy Border; royalpresentemb.etsy.com

Poppy design: Royal Present Embroidery, Red Poppies; royalpresentemb.etsy.com

SOURCE

Interweave carries the *Sew News* Pagosa Pants pattern; interweave.com/sewing.



- Embroider both borders following the previous embroidery instructions.
- Repeat to embroider the opposite pant leg.



Dorm Décor

BY MICHELE MISHLER

With the wide selection of beautiful embroidery designs available, it's easy to overlook the built-in lettering and monogram features on embroidery machines and digitizing software. Create a matching dorm room collection that combines colorful print fabric with a variety of stylish monograms and free flower and frame designs.



Download the Dorm Décor

design pack from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020.

Purchase the design at oregonpatchworks.com after the expiration date.



QUILTED PILLOWCASE

Create a cute patchwork pillowcase with flange border and custom monogram.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one 24"x32" pillowcase.

- 2 yards of white cotton fabric
- ½ yard each of chambray blue cotton fabric & cotton floral print
- 26"x34" rectangle of low-loft batting
- Tear-away stabilizer
- Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- Three 5/8"-diameter buttons
- Three-letter monogram & two small flower designs (approximately 2"x3" & 2" square; see "Designs.")

CUT

- From the white fabric, cut two 2¾"x29" strips, two 2¾"x25" strips, two 19"x25" rectangles and one 25"x33" rectangle.
- From the blue fabric, cut seventeen 6" squares.
- From the print fabric, cut eighteen 4½" squares.

EMBROIDER

- On the machine screen, open the edit screen, and then select the desired three-letter monogram design. Increase or decrease the design size to approximately 2"x3". Save the design onto the machine.

tip

The large center letter of a monogram traditionally represents the last name.

- Load the two flower designs onto the machine.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer. Place the hoop onto the machine.
- Center one blue square right side up over the stabilizer. Use the baste-in-the-hoop function on the machine to secure the fabric.
- Embroider the monogram design. Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Remove the basting stitches and excess stabilizer beyond the design perimeter.
- Repeat to embroider the remaining blue squares, creating a total of six monogram squares and six squares of each flower design.
- Trim each square to 4½", making sure to center the design within each square.

CONSTRUCT

- Arrange the embroidered and print squares in a 5x7 checkerboard pattern as desired. Stitch the squares together in rows using a ¼" seam allowance. Press the seam allowances toward the embroidered squares.
- Repeat to stitch each row together.
- Press all the seam allowances in one direction. Designate as the front panel.
- Stitch the longer strips to the front-panel upper and lower edges with right sides together. Press the seam allowances toward the front panel.
- Repeat to attach the two shorter strips to the panel right and left edges.
- Position the large white rectangle wrong side up over a flat work surface. Center the batting over the fabric. Center the front panel right side up over the batting; baste together.
- To quilt the layers, stitch in the ditch



tip

Digitizing software usually contains additional monogram options.

along the square and border seamlines. Trim the excess batting even with the front panel.

- Double-fold one small-white rectangle short edge 1" toward the wrong side; press. Edgestitch close to the first fold. Designate as the upper-back panel.
- Repeat to stitch the remaining small rectangle. Designate as the lower-back panel.
- Position the front panel right side up on a flat work surface. Position the lower-back panel wrong side up over the pillow front, aligning the raw edges. Position the upper-back panel wrong side up over the pillow front and lower-back panel, aligning the raw edges; pin.
- Stitch the panel perimeter using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Trim the seam allowances and corners. Turn the pillowcase right side out through the opening. Press the perimeter edge flat.



- Stitch in the ditch along the border seamline through all layers to create a flange.
- Construct three buttonholes along the back opening. Attach buttons.

EMBROIDERED PILLOW COVER

Embellish a decorative pillow cover with a name and flowers to add interest to any dorm room.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one 20½"x29" pillow cover.

- **$\frac{3}{4}$ yard of white 100% cotton fabric**
- **$\frac{1}{4}$ yard of cotton floral print**
- **Tear-away stabilizer**
- **Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery**
- **Built-in font & two small flower designs (approximately 2"x4½"&2" square; see "Designs.")**

CUT

- From the white fabric, cut one 26"x42" rectangle.
- From the print fabric, cut one 9"x42" strip.

EMBROIDER

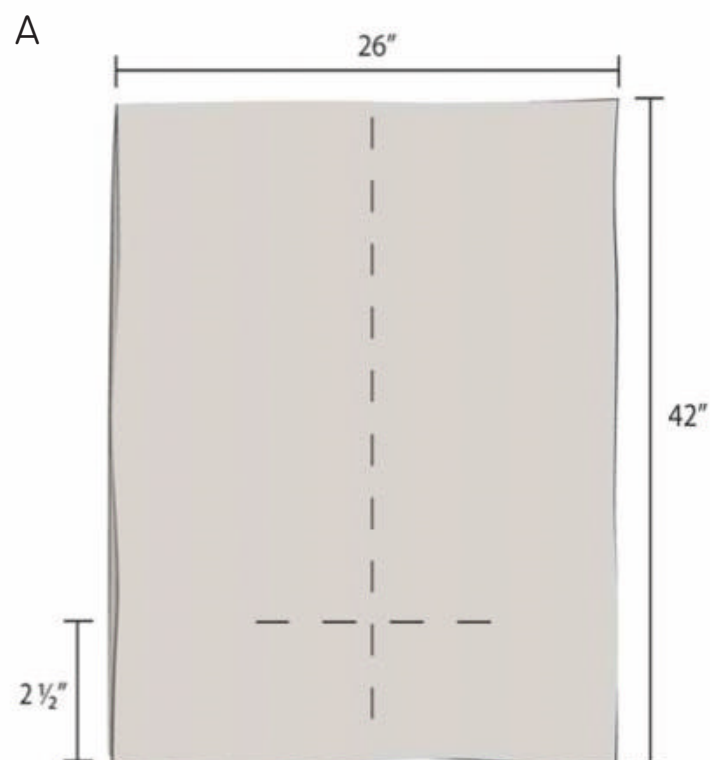
- Load the flower designs onto the machine.
- On the machine screen, open the edit screen, and then select the desired built-in medium-size script font. Type the desired name, adjusting the size to approximately 2" tall.
- Add the flower designs to the name beginning and end, rotating and mirroring the second design to create a symmetrical design. Save the

design onto the machine.

- If desired, use digitizing software to create the design. The featured design was created in digitizing software with additional kerning and reshaping options added to the name.
- To find the design vertical centerline, press the white rectangle in half lengthwise; unfold. Designate one rectangle short edge as the lower edge. Measure and mark 2½" from the lower edge; designate as the design horizontal centerline **(A)**.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer and the fabric rectangle, centering the design markings within the hoop. Place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider the design. Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Remove the excess stabilizer beyond the design perimeter. Press the design wrong side.

CONSTRUCT

- To create a French seam, fold the panel in half widthwise with wrong sides together; pin. Stitch each short edge using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ "; press open. Fold the panel with right sides together and press along the seamline. Stitch each short edge using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Designate as the pillow cover.
- Fold the strip in half widthwise with right sides together. Stitch using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance; press open. Press one strip long edge $\frac{1}{2}$ " toward the wrong side.
- Position the strip long raw edge to the pillow-cover raw lower edge with right sides together, matching the seamlines; pin.



the pillow-cover raw lower edge with right sides together, matching the seamlines; pin.

- Stitch using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Press the seam allowances toward the strip.
- Fold the strip folded edge toward the pillow-cover wrong side, aligning the edge just beyond the stitching line; pin. Topstitch the strip just beyond the seamline, catching the folded strip edge within the stitching. Press flat.

MONGRAMMED TOWELS

Learn how to create a reversible embroidery design to accent a bath and hand towel.

MATERIALS

- **One bath & hand towel**
- **$\frac{1}{8}$ yard each of white 100% cotton fabric & cotton floral print**
- **Water-soluble stabilizer**
- **Thread: all-purpose & embroidery**

- **Small & large appliqué frame & flower designs (approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ "x4", $3\frac{1}{2}$ "x5", $1\frac{1}{2}$ " square & 2" square; see "Designs.")**

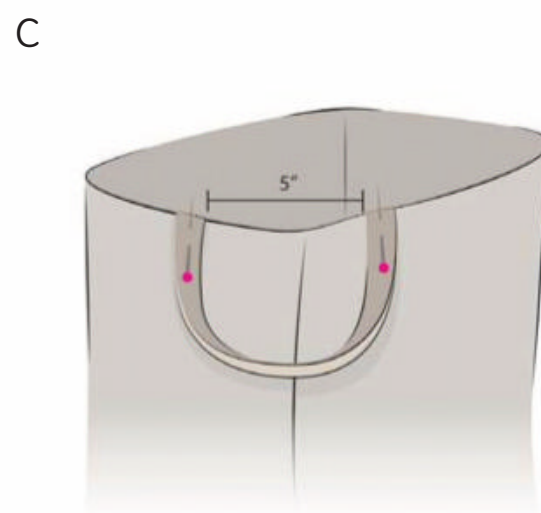
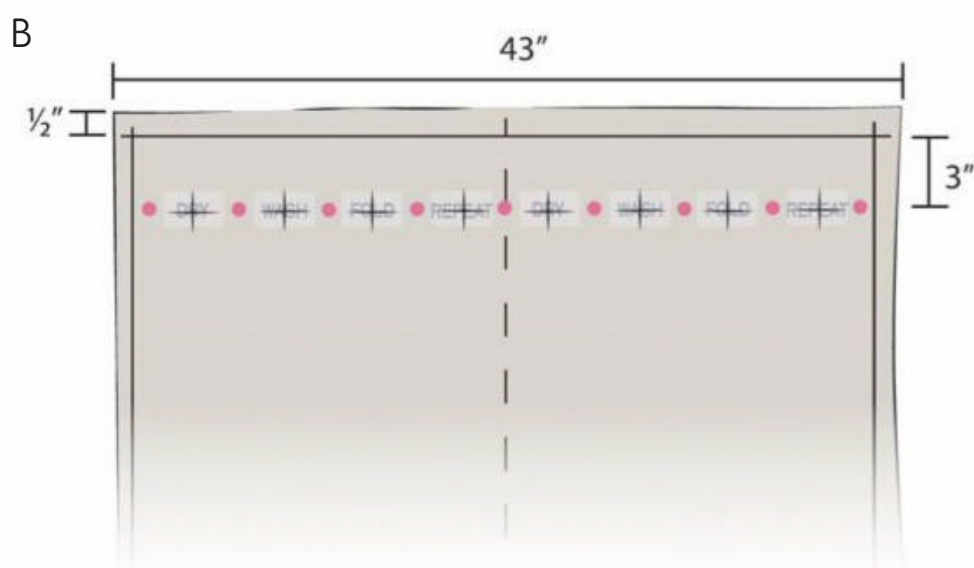
CUT

- From each of the white and print fabric, cut two $4\frac{1}{2}$ "x7" rectangles.

EMBROIDER

- On the machine screen, open the edit screen, and then select the desired built-in font. Create the monogram, adjusting the size to approximately 2" tall for the bath towel and $1\frac{1}{2}$ " tall for the hand towel. Save the design onto the machine.
- Load all the designs onto the machine.
- Open the large appliqué frame, monogram and large flower design onto the machine screen. Center the monogram within the frame. Duplicate the flower design. Add the flower designs to the frame beginning and end, rotating and mirroring the second design to create a symmetrical design. Save the design onto the machine.

- Repeat to create the small design.
- For each thread color used in the design, wind a bobbin with matching embroidery thread.
- Open the large saved design onto the machine screen.
- Position the bath towel right side up on a flat work surface. Mark the bath towel vertical centerline; designate as the design vertical centerline. Measure and mark 5" from one towel short end; designate as the design horizontal centerline.
- Hoop two layers of water-soluble stabilizer. Place the hoop onto the machine. Position the bath towel over the stabilizer, centering the design markings within the hoop. Use the baste-in-the-hoop function to secure the towel to the stabilizer. Center a piece of water-soluble stabilizer over the towel; baste.
- Embroider the placement stitch. Position one white rectangle right side up over the stitching. Embroider the second placement stitch.
- Advance the machine to the



monogram design. Embroider the monogram.

- Remove the hoop from the machine, but don't remove the stabilizer from the hoop. Trim the white square close to the placement stitching. Turn the hoop to the wrong side. Center one print square right side up over the placement stitching; pin or tape to secure.
- Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the third placement stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine, but don't remove the stabilizer from the hoop. Turn the hoop to the wrong side. Trim the print square close to the placement stitching.
- Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the frame outline.
- Embroider the flower designs, changing thread colors and bobbins as desired.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Remove the basting stitches and the excess stabilizer beyond the design perimeter.
- Repeat to embroider the hand towel using the small saved embroidery design.

PERSONALIZED LAUNDRY HAMPER

Use a built-in font to create fun words on a custom-made laundry hamper.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one 14"x25" hamper.

- **1½ yards each of heavyweight cotton duck or canvas, cotton floral print & 60"-wide heavyweight fusible interfacing**
- **Tear-away stabilizer**
- **Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery**
- **Removable fabric marker**
- **Built-in font & small flower design (approximately 1½" tall & 1" square; see "Designs.")**

PREPARE

- From each of the duck, print and interfacing, cut one 30"x43" rectangle and one 15"-diameter circle.
- From the duck, cut two 3"x20" strips.
- Fuse the interfacing pieces to each corresponding duck-piece wrong side following the manufacturer's instructions.

EMBROIDER

- On the machine screen, open the edit screen, and then select the desired built-in font. Create the word, "Wash", adjusting the size to approximately 1¼" tall. Save the design onto the machine. Record the design dimension.
- Repeat to create the words, "Dry", "Fold", and "Repeat".
- To create design templates, draw rectangles on a piece of paper according to each recorded design dimension; cut out, and then label. Mark each design centerpoint on each template. Or create each word in digitizing software, and then print design templates.
- Print out multiple flower design templates.
- To find the vertical centerline, press the duck panel in half widthwise with right sides together; unfold. Position the panel on a flat work surface; designate one long edge as the upper edge. Mark ½" seam allowances along the upper and side edges using a removable fabric marker.
- Position the word templates over the panel upper edge in the correct order with the word lower edges facing the panel upper edge and

the design horizontal centerlines 3" from the panel upper edge. Center a flower template between each word, making sure all the templates are evenly spaced. Mark each design center **(B)**.

- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer, and then place the hoop onto the machine. Position the panel over the hoop, centering the first design center within the hoop. Use the baste-in-the-hoop function on the machine to secure the fabric.
- Embroider the first design. Remove the hoop from the machine.

Remove the basting stitches and any excess stabilizer beyond the design perimeter.

- Repeat to embroider the remaining designs.

- Designate as the lining panel.

CONSTRUCT

Use ½" seam allowance unless otherwise noted.

- Press one handle strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; unfold. Press each strip long edge toward the foldline. Press the

strip in half lengthwise along the original foldline. Edgestitch each handle long edge.

- Repeat to construct the remaining handle.


- Fold the lining panel in half widthwise with right sides together. Stitch the long edge; press open. Pin the duck-circle perimeter and lining-panel lower edge with right sides together, clipping into the seam allowances as needed to fit. Stitch the circle perimeter. Trim the seam allowance, and then press toward the lining panel. Press the lining panel upper edge ½" toward the wrong side.

- Repeat to construct the print hamper. Designate as the exterior hamper. Turn the exterior hamper right side out.

- Insert the lining hamper into the exterior hamper with wrong sides together and matching the seamlines and upper edges; pin.

- Center one handle over the exterior-hamper upper edge seamline, sandwiching each short end between the exterior and lining and spacing the short ends 5" apart; pin **(C)**.

- Repeat to pin the remaining handle to the opposite hamper side.

- Edgestitch the upper edge. Fold the lining 5" toward the hamper exterior to create a cuff and expose the embroidery. 

DESIGNS

Download the Dorm Décor design pack for free from sewdaily.com until August 31, 2020. Purchase the designs from oregonpatchworks.com after the expiration date.

SOURCE

Janome America, Inc. provided the Memory Craft 15000: janome.com.



Boho Baby

BY STACY SCHLYER

Learn how to create a reverse appliqué design on a full flutter sleeve to create a fun Boho blouse.

Reverse appliqué is a popular and fun technique for creating added dimension. Traditional appliqué applies small fabric scraps to the fabric right side, while reverse appliqué cuts away the main fabric to reveal a contrasting fabric below. Reverse-appliqué machine embroidery designs are limited, but there are several other design types that can be modified for the technique, such as cutaway or lace cutwork designs.



MATERIALS

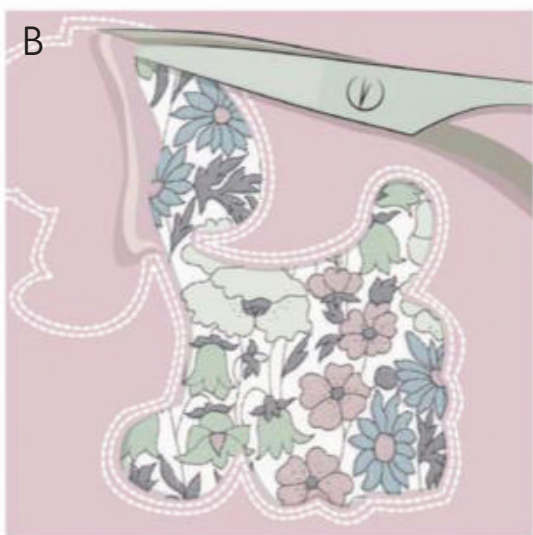
- + Loose-fitting woven blouse pattern (such as Hey June Handmade Phoenix Blouse; see “Sources.”)
- + Woven blouse pattern with flutter sleeves (such as Hey June Handmade Amalfi Dress; see “Sources.”)
- + Lightweight solid woven fabric (amount according to loose-fitting blouse pattern envelope plus ¼ yard)
- + Coordinating woven print fabric (amount according to the loose-fitting blouse yoke measurements plus ¼ yard)
- + Tear-away stabilizer
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Removable fabric marker
- + Appliqué scissors (optional)
- + Cutwork lace design (approximately 3”x6¾”; see “Design”)

PREPARE

- Cut out the loose-fitting blouse pattern pieces, excluding the sleeves, according to your measurements.
- From the solid fabric, cut one blouse front, one blouse back, one front yoke and one back yoke. Designate the yokes as the lining pieces.
- From the print fabric, cut one front yoke and one back yoke. Set aside the remaining fabric for appliqué.
- Cut out only the flutter sleeve pattern pieces from the remaining blouse pattern according to your measurements.
- From the solid fabric, cut two sleeves.
- Position one sleeve right side up on a flat work surface. Find the sleeve vertical and horizontal centerpoint between the hem and seam allowances; pin-mark. Designate as the design placement.
- Position a large print scrap right side up on a flat work surface. Position a piece of tear-away stabilizer over the print fabric. Position the sleeve right side up over the stabilizer, centering the design placement markings over the layers. Hoop all layers together **(A)**.



- Load the lace cutwork design onto the machine. Place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider the placement stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine, but don't remove the fabric from the hoop. Carefully cut away the sleeve fabric and stabilizer between the placement stitching line, making sure not to cut the print fabric **(B)**. If needed, use appliqué scissors for precise cutting.




- Turn the hoop to the wrong side. Trim away the excess print fabric beyond the placement stitching, making sure to only cut away the print fabric **(C)**.



- Spray temporary adhesive onto the hoop wrong side. Position a piece of tear-away stabilizer over the hoop wrong side; finger-press to secure.

- Place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider the tacking stitch. Do not embroider the next stitch sequence that creates the lace design.
- Embroider the design outline and finishing stitches. Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Cut away the excess stabilizer from the design perimeter.
- Repeat to embroider the remaining sleeve.
- Position the front yoke right side up on a flat work surface. Mark the design placement on each side of the yoke, making sure to center the design with the pattern-piece grainline marking. The pattern piece slants slightly and the finished design may otherwise look crooked.
- Position a piece of solid fabric right side up on a flat work surface. Position a piece of tear-away stabilizer over the solid fabric. Position the front yoke right side up over the stabilizer. Hoop all the layers together.
- Embroider each design following the previous reverse appliqué instructions.

CONSTRUCT

- Construct the blouse following the loose-fitting blouse pattern instructions, but replacing the bell sleeves with the embroidered flutter sleeves. 

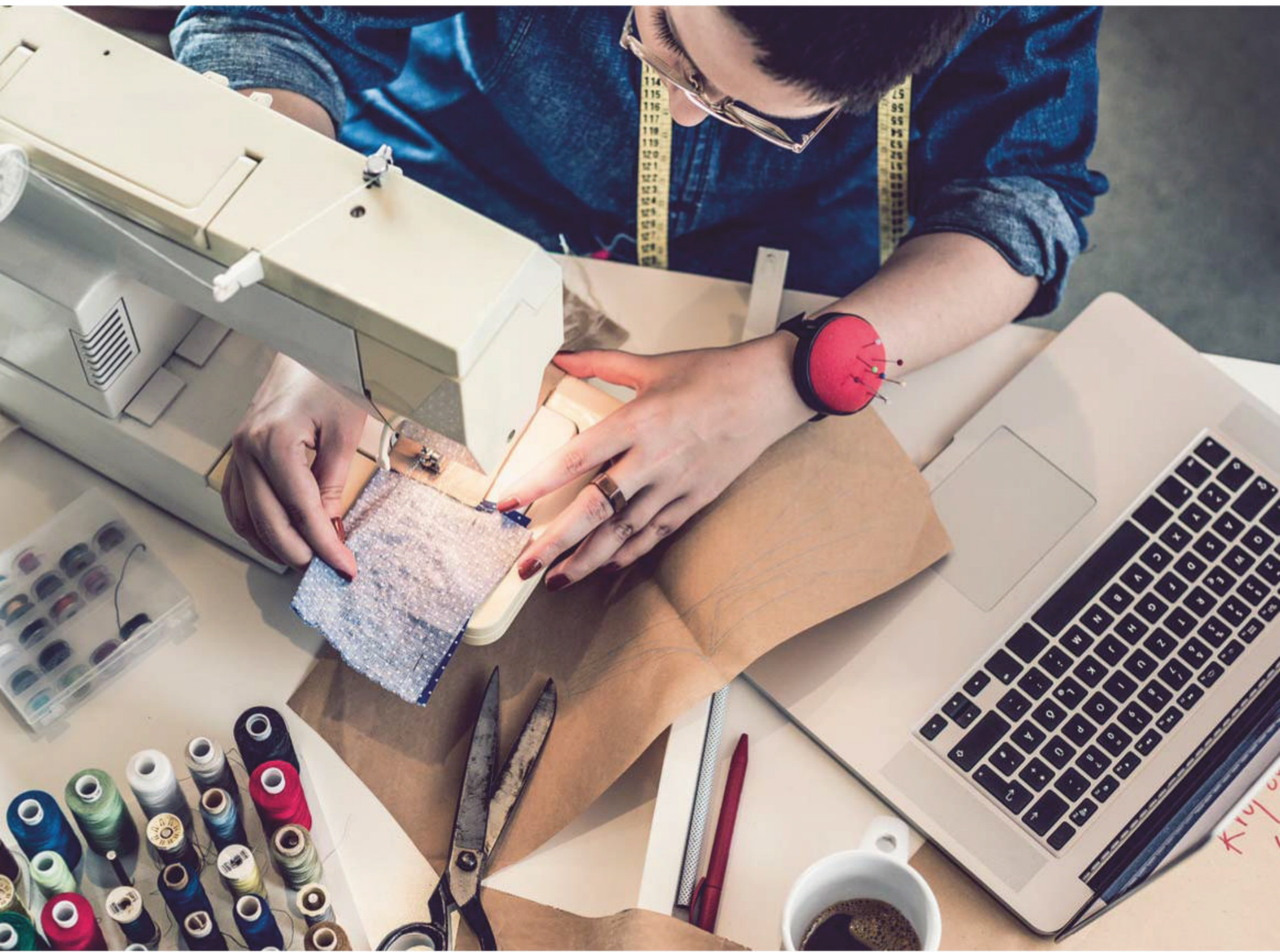
DESIGN

Lace cutwork design: Urban Threads, Rose & Bone Sleeve Accent (Cutwork) (UT7525); urbanthreads.com

SOURCES

Hey June Handmade carries the Phoenix Blouse and Amalfi Dress patterns: heyjunehandmade.com.





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Festival Ready

BY AMANDA CARESTIO

Add some boho flavor to a faux suede hip bag! A pretty cross-stitch inspired embroidery design and fringed border give this project some serious carefree summer vibes.





SUPPLIES

- + Bag pattern (such as the Fennel Fanny Pack by Sarah Kirsten)
- + Faux suede fabric (amount according to pattern envelope)
- + Zippers, webbing & findings (according to pattern envelope)
- + Thread: bobbin, embroidery, contrasting & coordinating all-purpose
- + Glue stick or preferred semi-permanent adhesive
- + Border embroidery design (approx. 1.44"x6.39"; see "Design")


PREPARE

- Determine the embroidery design placement, adjusting the pattern if needed. For the sample featured here, the zipper placement on the front zipper pocket was moved $\frac{1}{2}$ " up to accommodate the design and the fringe border.
- Cut the faux suede using the adjusted pattern pieces or measurements included with the pattern instructions, except for the lower front panel that you plan to embroider.
- Cut an additional strip of fabric that measures 1"x10" for the fringe border.
- Place a piece of tape along the upper edge of the fringe border strip, covering the upper $\frac{1}{2}$ " edge of the border strip. Using sharp scissors and working across the fringe border lower edge, clip up to the tape, spacing the cuts about $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart. Remove the tape carefully.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Poinsettia Border embroidery design from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Find the design after the expiration at interweave.com/sewing.
- Load the design onto the machine. Thread the machine with embroidery thread in the top and bobbin thread in the bobbin.
- Hoop a piece of paper-backed adhesive stabilizer. Score the paper and peel away, revealing the adhesive. Finger press the suede in place.
- Stitch the design.
- Using the front panel pattern piece or the measurements, cut the front panel to the correct dimensions, centering the embroidered design.

CONSTRUCT

- Install the zipper into the front pocket panel.
- Topstitch along each zipper edge with contrasting thread. With glue, secure the upper fringe border edge so it's just below the folded fabric edge of the lower front panel. Press securely, then edgestitch the panel in place with contrasting thread.
- Continue assembling the bag following the pattern instructions. 

DESIGN

Download the Poinsettia Border embroidery design from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Find the design after the expiration at interweave.com/sewing.

SOURCES

Sarah Kirsten supplied the Fennel Fanny Pack pattern: sarkirsten.com.

SVP Worldwide provided the Husqvarna Viking Designer Epic: svpworldwide.com.





Summer Montage Skirt

BY BIANCA SPRINGER

Update a plain denim skirt for summer with a fresh batch of embroidery designs.



SUPPLIES

- + Premade or store-bought denim skirt
- + Liquid stabilizer or traditional embroidery stabilizer
- + Denim needle
- + Embroidery thread
- + Summer-themed embroidery designs (See “Designs.”)

PREPARE

- Spray liquid stabilizer on the fabric, saturating the embroidery field. Hang for 10 minutes or until the product has absorbed into the fabric but is still damp. Press the fabric until it is smooth and stiff.
- Hoop the fabric and adjust it until it is drum tight. Pin, clip or tape the excess fabric out of the embroidery field.
- Using paper templates, lay out the designs, leaving space along the skirt lower edge for the stitched border. Place the large motifs first, followed by the smaller elements to fill the spaces between.
- For symmetrical designs, mirror the images of opposite sides.



EMBROIDER

- Stitch the designs, re-hooping and stitching until you are satisfied.
- Load your conventional sewing machine with coordinating embroidery thread and select a scallop decorative stitch. Stitch the lower edge close to the existing hem. Select a second design and stitch it ½" from the first row of stitching. Repeat with the scallop again, ½" from the second design.
- Stitch the scallop border along the waistband if desired.
- Wash and dry skirt to remove the liquid stabilizer. ⓘ

DESIGNS

Embroidery designs: Preloaded on Brother PE 770 and embroiderysuperdeal.com

SOURCE

Terial Magic provided the liquid stabilizer: terialmagic.com.

Boxy Blooms Blouse

BY KATE ZAYNARD

Embellish a breezy linen top with delicate embroidery for a simple but elegant summer look that can easily go from casual to officewear.

Sew News Antero Shell



Download the Antero Shell
pattern from cmemag.com/freebies until Aug. 31, 2020.
Find the pattern after the
expiration at
interweave.com/sewing.



PREPARE

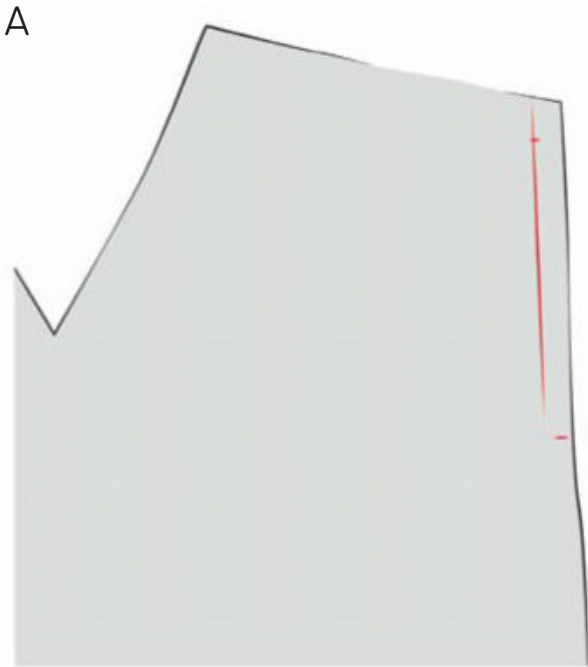
- Download the Antero Shell from sewdaily.com. Print, tile and cut out the pattern pieces according to the sizing information at right.
- From the fabric, cut one front on the fold, one back on the fold, one front facing on the fold and one back facing on the fold.
- If desired, cut one front and back facing on the fold from the interfacing. Fuse the interfacing to the coordinating pieces following the manufacturer’s instructions.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

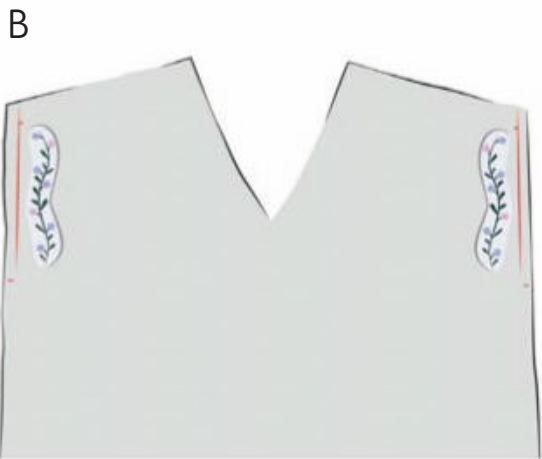
	S	M	L	XL
BUST	48½"	49½"	52"	53½"
HIP	48½"	49½"	52"	53½"

EMBROIDER

- Place the shell front right side up on a flat work surface. Using a removable fabric marker, mark ¾" from the upper edge at the right shoulder point. Mark 8½" from the upper edge along the right edge. Mark the ½" seam allowance along the right edge between the two marks **(A)**.



- Repeat to mark the left edge of the front and both edges of the back.
- Print two templates of the embroidery design, mirroring one.
- Place the shell front right side up on a flat work surface. Position one template at least ¼" from the right edge seam allowance, aligning it between the marks and ensuring it's at least ¼" below the upper mark. Adjust until satisfied with the placement.
- Repeat to position the mirrored template on the shell front left edge. Adjust as necessary to ensure the templates are evenly placed **(B)**. Mark the centerlines for each design and remove the templates.
- Repeat to position the templates and mark the design centerlines on the shell back.
- Load the design onto the machine. Thread the machine with embroidery thread in the top and bobbin thread in the bobbin.



- Hoop a piece of self-adhesive water-soluble stabilizer. Activate the adhesive according to the manufacturer's instructions and position the fabric over the hoop, aligning one set of crossmarks with the hoop center. Gently finger press to adhere.

tip

Don't have self-adhesive stabilizer? Use regular water-soluble stabilizer and temporary spray adhesive instead.

- Place the hoop onto the machine. Adjust the needle position if necessary to align with the centermarks. Embroider the design, changing colors as desired and clipping jump threads between colors.

- Remove the hoop from the machine and the project from the hoop. Trim the excess stabilizer around the design perimeter.
- Repeat to embroider the remaining designs.
- Carefully remove the remaining stabilizer according to the manufacturer's instructions and allow the front and back to dry completely before constructing the shell.

CONSTRUCT

Use ½" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

- Finish each piece edge with a serger, if desired. Or finish each seam allowance edge after seaming using a serger, zigzag stitch or pink-ing shears.
- Stitch the front and back together at the shoulder seams; press open the seams.

- Stitch the front and back facings together at the shoulder seams; press open the seams.
- Align the neckline facing with the neckline with right sides together, matching the shoulder seams and center-front Vs. Pin mark the point of the V.
- Stitch the facing to the neckline, pivoting at the pin mark. Press the facing to the inside. Understitch if desired, then press again. Topstitch close to the neckline edge.
- Find the marks that were 8½" below the shoulder edges. If they have been removed, re-mark the front and back 8" below the shoulder seam. Stitch the side seam from these notches to the shell hem; press open the seams.
- Press the armhole edges ½" to the wrong side. Topstitch ¼" from the edge, adjusting slightly to avoid stitching over the embroidery if necessary.
- Press the hem edge ½" to the wrong side. Topstitch ⅜" from the lower edge to hem. 🧵

DESIGN

Delicate Autumn Wildflower Border; Embroidery Library M21628: emblibrary.com

SOURCES

Download the Antero Shell pattern from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Find the pattern after the expiration at interweave.com/sewing.

SVP Worldwide provided the Husqvarna Viking Designer Epic, H Class 250S Serger and Brilliance 75Q machines: svpworldwide.com.



Cork Cuff



BY BIANCA SPRINGER

Embroider a pretty cuff bracelet on cork material. Change up colors to range from fun, casual versions to high-end wrist bling.



MATERIALS

- + 5"x7" rectangle of cork fabric
- + 5"x7" rectangle of cork or coordinating cotton fabric
- + Self-adhesive stabilizer
- + Topstitch or denim sewing machine needle
- + Thread: bobbin & embroidery
- + Embroidery or painter's tape
- + Necklace extender with a clasp on one end & jump ring on the other
- + Jewelry pliers
- + Bracelet embroidery design (approx. 2.53"x6.48"; see "Design")


PREPARE

- Load the design onto the machine. Install a topstitch or denim needle into the machine.
- Hoop a piece of self-adhesive stabilizer. Activate adhesive per the manufacturer's instructions and center the cork rectangle in the hoop.

EMBROIDER

- Place the hoop onto the machine and embroider, changing thread colors as desired and ending before the final stitch sequence.
- Remove the hoop from the machine, but don't remove the project from the hoop. Turn the hoop to the wrong side. Tape the other cork or coordinating fabric right side up to the underside of the hoop, being sure the fabric covers all previous stitching.
- Embroider the final step, securing the backing to the underside of the stitched bracelet.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the project from the hoop. Trim around the bracelet close to the perimeter stitching.

FINISH

- Punch through the eyelets on the ends of the bracelets.
- Using pliers, open one jump ring, insert it through the stitched eyelet and close the ring. Attach the clasp, determine the finished length needed and remove any extra links.
- Install a jump ring on the opposite side, insert the end of the extender chain and close. 

DESIGN

Bracelet designs; Embracelets by Golden Needle Designs: goldenneedledesigns.com

SOURCES

Fabric Funhouse carries cork fabric: fabricfunhouse.com.

RNK Distributing carries Floriani Wet and Stick with Grid Self-Adhesive Stabilizer: rnkdistributing.com.



JUST CORKING

Cork is eco-friendly, renewable and very trendy. It's also a great surface to embroider on. While it acts like leather, vinyl and other non-fibrous materials in many ways (don't pin it!), its fabric backing allows it to take embroidery better than many similar fabrics. Read on to discover the best way to embroider cork.

- While cork isn't damaged as severely by dense stitching, it will eventually perforate. Consider density when choosing a design, avoiding designs with extremely dense and layered stitching.
- When marking on cork, consider what will both show up and remove effectively. Test markings on scraps before using a method on the final project.

On the featured sample, a white chalk roller was used and found to be very effective, as it deposited well, was easily visible and wiped away quickly and easily.

- Cork can't be hooped, so use a self-adhesive stabilizer or adhere the fabric using a temporary spray adhesive. Tear-away and cut-away are preferable, as soaking cork to remove water-soluble stabilizer can damage the cork. Never baste or pin in the hoop, as holes are permanent.
- Use a large, sharp needle with a large eye. Topstitching and denim needles are ideal for embroidering cork.

- If available, lower the machine's foot to sit just above the cork while embroidering. Like with leather, the cork may close in around the needle a bit when it's down, causing the needle to pull the material up on its upstroke. Keeping the foot low minimizes this effect.
- Slow the machine speed; however, a speed slightly higher than the slowest available might work better, as it creates more momentum behind the needle. Try different speeds during test stitching to see what works best.
- When embroidering on any new material, be sure to test stitch to find the best combination of design, needle, stabilizer, thread and machine settings for your project.



Download the **Saguaro Cactus** design from sewdaily.com until Aug. 30, 2020! Find the full collection at interweave.com/sewing.

Fiesta Set

BY STACY SCHLYER
DESIGNS BY JESSICA ZIEBARTH

Get ready for summer dining by stitching up colorful placemats and coordinating napkins. These fun cactus designs are a great way to bring a southwest vibe to your kitchen or outdoor eating areas.

Embroidered Placemat

MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to make one 14"x17" placemat.

- + ½ yard or one fat quarter each of cotton fabric for the main panel, striped fabric for contrast & cotton fabric for the backing
- + ½ yard of fusible fleece
- + ⅞ yard of pompom trim
- + Cut-away stabilizer
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Ruler
- + Rotary cutting system
- + Hand-sewing needle
- + Cactus embroidery design (approx. 3.37"x6.85"; see "Designs")

CUT

- From the main panel fabric, cut one 8¾"x18" rectangle.
- From the striped fabric, cut two 4⅛"x18" rectangles.
- From the backing fabric, cut one 15"x18" rectangle.
- From the fusible fleece, cut one 14¼"x17¼" rectangle.



EMBROIDER

- Print a template of the Cactus Trio design, then load the design onto the machine.
- Place the main panel right side up on a flat work surface. Position the template 1" from the left panel edge and centered between the upper and lower edges. Mark the centerlines and remove the template.
- Hoop the fabric with a piece of cutaway stabilizer, centering the centermarks within the hoop.
- Place the hoop onto the machine and embroider the design, changing colors as desired and clipping jump threads between color changes.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Trim the stabilizer close to the design perimeter.

CONSTRUCT

Use ½" seam allowances.

- With right sides together, stitch each long edge of the embroidered main panel to a striped rectangle. Press open the seams.
- Position a piece of pompom trim along one placemat short edge, along the seam line and with the pompoms toward the placemat interior. Baste in place. Repeat for the remaining short edge **(A)**.



- Center the fusible fleece on the backing wrong side and fuse following the manufacturer's instructions.
- With right sides together, align the placemat front and back and stitch around all sides, leaving a 5" opening for turning.
- Clip the corners and turn the placemat right side out through the opening; press.
- Using a hand sewing needle and matching thread, slipstitch the opening closed.

Napkins

MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to make one 15" square napkin.

- + ½ yard or one fat quarter each of cotton fabric for the interior square & backing\binding
- + Cut-away stabilizer
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Point turner
- + Removable fabric marker
- + Ruler
- + Rotary cutting system
- + Thread to match
- + Cactus embroidery design (approx. 1.56"x3.71"; see "Designs")

CUT

- From the interior fabric, cut one 14" square.
- From the backing/binding fabric, cut one 18" square.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Saguaro Cactus design from sewdaily.com until Aug. 31, 2020. Print a template of the design, then load the design onto the machine.
- Place the 14" square right side up on a flat work surface. Position the template so the lower edge is 1" from one corner of the square **(B)**. Adjust placement if desired, then mark the centerlines. Remove the template.
- Hoop a piece of cut-away stabilizer. Spray the 14" square wrong side with temporary spray adhesive and position it over the stabilizer,

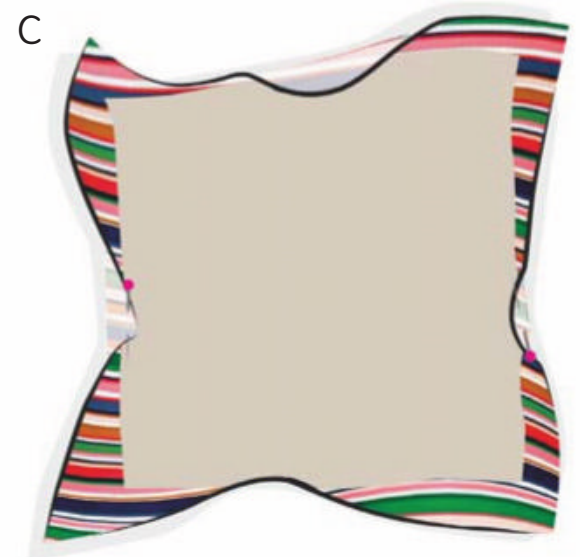
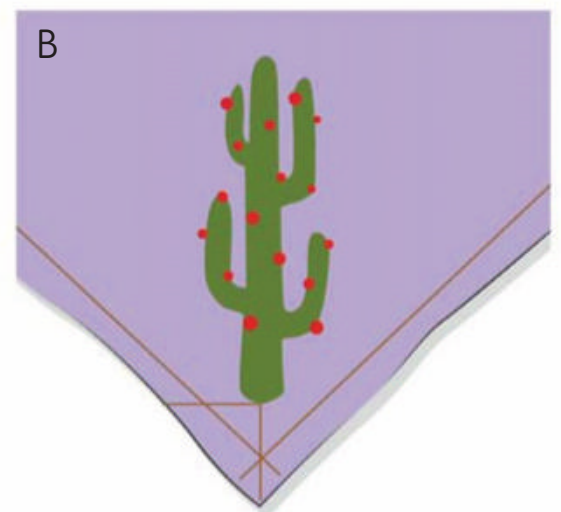
centering the centermarks in the hoop. Gently finger-press to secure.

- Load the design onto the machine. Place the hoop onto the machine and embroider the design, changing thread colors as desired and clipping jump threads between color changes.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the project from the hoop. Trim the stabilizer close to the design perimeter.

CONSTRUCT

Use ¼" seam allowances.

- Find the centers of all four sides of both the 14" and 18" squares and mark.
- With right sides together, match the markings on the small square to the markings on the large square and pin with raw edges aligned **(C)**.



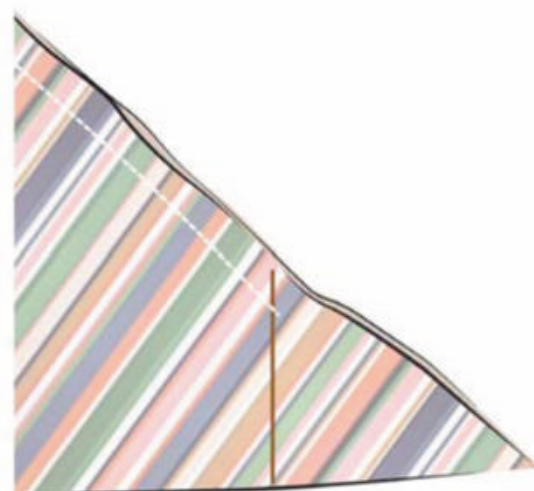
- Stitch the upper edges of the small and large square together, keeping the centers aligned and beginning and ending stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the small square side edges.
- Repeat to stitch the large and small square lower edges together, leaving a 4" opening for turning.
- Repeat to stitch the side edges. The small square should retain its shape, while the large square should have formed triangle-shaped dog ears at each corner **(D)**.

D



- Fold the napkin in half, creating a triangle shape. Place a ruler at the end of the stitching, lining it up with the folded edge. Draw a line from the edge of the stitching to the folded edge **(E)**. Stitch over the line and remove excess material. Repeat for remaining 3 corners.
- Turning the napkin right side out through the opening, poking out the corners with a point turner, if necessary. Press well.
- Edge stitch the binding in place to keep the binding from shifting and close the opening. 🧵

E



DESIGNS

Saguaro Cactus and Cactus Trio: Download the Saguaro Cactus design from sewdaily.com until Aug. 30, 2020. Find the full collection at interweave.com/sewing.

CME EXCLUSIVE SUCCULENT CHIC COLLECTION

Cacti are in (and we kind of hope they never go out!). Get into the prickly trend with this fun collection of succulent-inspired designs. These can be “dressed” up or down — they’re cute and casual or elegant and classy depending on how they’re used. Stitch them on home décor items (they’d be great on pillows or towels in addition to the place settings that showcase them here) or use one as the perfect southwestern accent on a bag or garment. Find the collection at interweave.com/sewing.



Patio Posh

BY KATIE VARDIJAN

Embellish a readymade mosquito-net canopy into a high-end decorative piece to hang over a chair or your bed.



MATERIALS

- + Readymade circular mosquito-net bed canopy (See “Sources.”)
- + Fabric-like paper-release adhesive water-soluble stabilizer (See “Sources.”)
- + Thread: bobbin & embroidery
- + Towels
- + Spray bottle (optional)
- + Needlework designs (approximately 7”x8”; see “Design.”)

tip

Choose simple line designs that have light stitching for best results.

PREPARE

- Print multiple templates for each design.
- Lightly press the bed canopy using a cool iron, following the manufacturer’s instructions.
- Hang the canopy. Pin the design templates on the canopy as desired **(A)**. The featured canopy has designs randomly placed over the entire netting to create a lacy look.

EMBROIDER

- Load the designs onto the embroidery machine.
- Thread the needle with embroidery

A



B




thread and the bobbin with matching bobbin thread.

- Hoop a piece of paper-release adhesive water-soluble stabilizer with the paper side facing up. Score the paper along the hoop inner perimeter. Remove the paper to expose the adhesive. Mark the hoop centerlines using a removable fabric marker.

- Position the canopy right side up over the hooped stabilizer, centering one design template over the stabilizer centerlines; finger-press to secure. Place the hoop onto the machine, making sure no canopy fabric is caught below the hoop **(B)**.
- Remove the template. Embroider the design. Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Carefully trim the excess stabilizer close to the design perimeter. Trim the jump threads.
- Repeat to embroider the remaining designs.

FINISH

- In a clean bathtub or sink, rinse out the stabilizer from each design following the manufacturer's instructions. Pat dry with towels.
- Place a large dry towel on a pressing surface. Press each design using a warm iron. If large areas of stabilizer remain or if the design is very sticky, rinse again. If small areas of stabilizer remain, use a spray bottle filled with warm water to saturate the area, and then use a dry towel to remove the stabilizer.
- If desired, press the entire canopy. 

DESIGN

Needlework designs: Urban Threads, Chic Needlework Design Pack, UTP1519; urbanthreads.com

SOURCES

Amazon.com carries mosquito net bed canopies: amazon.com.

Sulky carries Sticky Fabri-Solvay stabilizer: sulky.com.





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Cottage Cheer

BY KIM HANSON

Embroider whimsical cottages appliquéd in cheery fabrics to welcome summer into your home!

MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to create one 28" x 75½" table runner.

- + 1¼ yards each of solid white & red cotton fabric (A & B)
- + ⅔ yard of floral print cotton fabric (C)
- + ½ yard of white floral print cotton fabric (D)
- + ¼ yard of apple green cotton fabric (E)
- + ⅛ yard of red floral print cotton fabric (F)
- + 2½ yards each of solid pink cotton fabric (G) & lightweight quilt batting
- + Coordinating fabric scraps (for appliques)
- + 1½ yards of tear-away stabilizer or mediumweight fusible stabilizer
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Safety pins
- + Hand sewing needle
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Spray starch
- + Crocheted flowers (optional)
- + Buttons (optional)
- + 6 house appliqué embroidery designs (see "Designs")

CUT

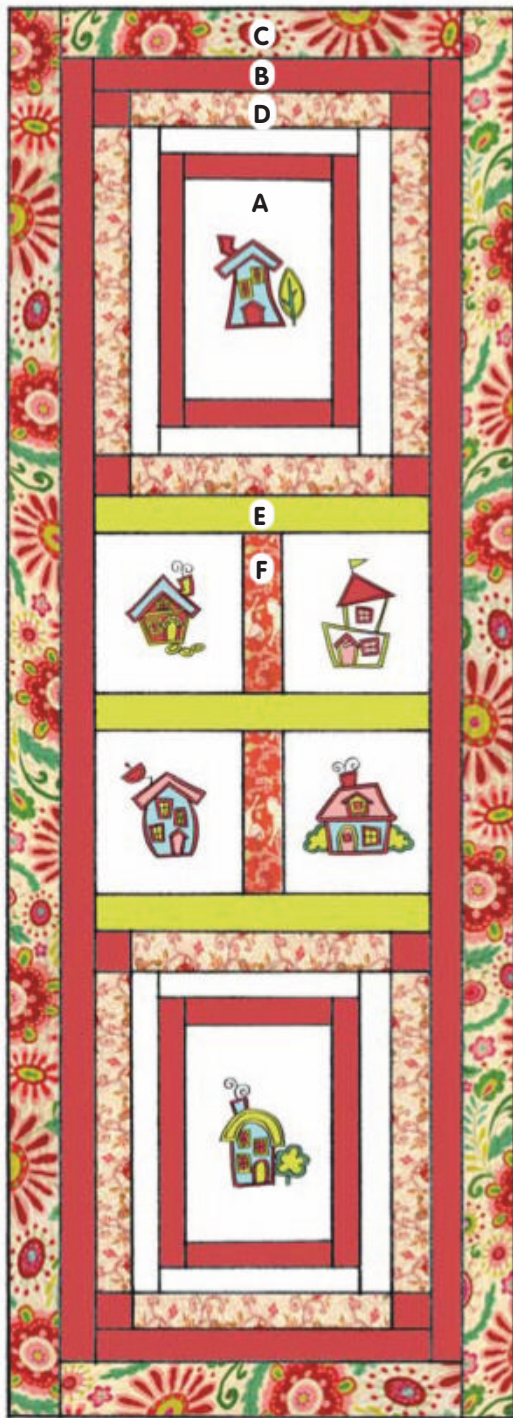
- From the stabilizer, cut six 10" x 15" rectangles for the appliqué blocks.
- From fabric A, cut six 10" x 15" rectangles for the appliqué blocks and three 2½" x 42" strips for the borders.
- From fabric B, cut two 2" x 42" strips for the small borders, five 2¼" x 42" strips for the large border, eight 3" squares for the red corners and six 2½" x 42" strips for the binding.
- From fabric C, cut six 3½" x 42" strips for the large outer border.
- From fabric D, cut three 3" x 42" strips.
- From fabric E, cut three 3¼" x 19¼" strips for the horizontal borders.
- From fabric F, cut two 2¾" x 9¾" strips for the vertical borders.
- From fabric G, cut one 36" x 85" rectangle for the backing.

EMBROIDER

- Thread the needle with embroidery thread and the bobbin with bobbin thread. Load the first embroidery design into the machine.



QUILT DIAGRAM



tip

Cover the work surface with paper when using spray starch and temporary spray adhesive to prevent over spray.



- Center and hoop one appliqué block with a piece of stabilizer. Place the hoop onto the machine and embroider the design outline **(A)**. Remove the hoop from the machine. Cut a fabric scrap slightly larger than the outline. Spray the scrap right side with starch; press. Spray the scrap wrong side with temporary spray adhesive. Center and finger-press the scrap over the design outline.
- Embroider the tacking stitches **(B)**. Remove the hoop from the machine and carefully trim the appliqué fabric close to the stitches **(C)**.

- Place the hoop back onto the machine and finish embroidering the design, repeating the appliqué steps **(D)**.
- Repeat to complete each embroidered block.
- Trim two embroidered blocks to measure $9\frac{1}{4}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}"$ and the remaining blocks to measure $9" \times 9\frac{3}{4}"$, centering the designs; press.

CONSTRUCT

Use $\frac{3}{8}"$ seam allowances.

- Stitch the block seams with right sides together. Press seam allowances away from center.

- Piece together block 1 according to the diagram above. Align one small red-border strip with the embroidered-block upper edge; stitch. Trim the excess border beyond the seam end. Repeat to stitch the small border to the embroidered-block lower edge. Repeat to attach the small border to the pieced-panel sides.
- Align one fabric-C strip with the pieced-block upper edge; stitch. Trim the excess border beyond the seam end. Repeat to stitch the white border to the pieced-block lower edge, and then stitch the sides in the same manner. Attach the fabric-D upper and lower borders.

tip

Use temporary spray adhesive between the fabric layers to prevent shifting before quilting.


- From the remaining fabric-D strips, cut four 16"-long strips. Stitch one red square to each fabric-D side-border short end. Press the seams away from center and trim to ¼". Stitch the side borders onto the pieced panel, aligning the seams.
- Repeat to stitch block 6.
- Align one fabric-F strip long edge with the embroidered block-2 right edge; stitch. Align the block-3 left edge with the remaining fabric-F long edge; stitch. Repeat to stitch blocks 4 and 5 to the remaining fabric-F strip.
- Align one fabric-E strip long edge with the block 2 and 3 upper edge; stitch. Repeat to stitch another fabric-E strip to the block lower edge. Align the block 4 and 5 unit with the block 2 and 3 unit lower edge; stitch. Align the remaining fabric-E strip with the unit lower edge; stitch.
- Align the block-1 lower edge with the multi-block upper edge; stitch. Align the block-6 upper edge with the multi-block lower edge; stitch.
- Align one fabric-B large border-strip long edge with the table runner upper edge; stitch. Trim the excess border beyond the seam end. Stitch the remaining border to the table-runner lower edge. Piece together the remaining large border strips along the short edges; press open the seams. Repeat to attach a border strip to each table-runner side.
- Repeat to attach the fabric-C border, referring to the diagram at left.

QUILT

- Place the backing fabric right side down on a flat surface; smooth out. Layer the batting over the backing; smooth. With the right side up, layer the table runner top over the batting; smooth. Pin through all layers every 3" to 4" using safety pins. Quilt as desired up to the design perimeters. Change thread colors to quilt each block, if desired. The featured table runner was quilted using an all-over free-motion quilting method.
- Evenly trim the table runner edges.

FINISH

- Piece together the binding strips with right sides together along the short edges to form one continuous strip. Join each strip using a 45° seam to reduce bulk; press open. Cut one strip end on the diagonal, and then fold it ½" toward the wrong side; press.
- Fold the strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; press. Align the binding raw edge with the table runner raw edge on the right side; stitch using a ½" seam allowance. At the first corner, stitch to within ⅜" from the edge, backstitch for two stitches and remove the table runner from the machine. Fold the binding strip up at a 45° angle, and then back down to align with the adjacent table runner edge; continue stitching. Miter all four corners in this manner as you reach them.
- Trim the binding end ½" beyond the binding beginning. Tuck the binding end into the diagonal seam at the binding beginning and smooth the ends together. Finish stitching the binding.

- Wrap the binding around the table runner perimeter toward the wrong side; pin, and then whipstitch the binding fold to the table runner back.
- If desired, embellish the table runner by hand stitching crocheted flowers and buttons. 

DESIGNS

Cottages: Designs by JuJu, Whimsical Cottages Appliqué (DBJJ585); designsbyjuju.com

SOURCES

Brother provided the embroidery, all-purpose and bobbin thread: brother.com.

Free Spirit Fabrics provided the Love & Joy by Dena Designs fabric: freespiritfabric.com.

Riley Blake provided the cotton solids and crocheted flower and button embellishments: rileyblakedesigns.com.





ask an embroiderer

Get Stitchin'

BY KATE ZAYNARD

Discover beginner tips and advice for machine embroidery newbies from Managing Editor Kate Zaynard.

How important is hoop size when it comes to picking a machine?

This is an interesting dilemma; I don't think there's an easy answer. Most entry-level machines come with a single hoop size: 100mm x 100mm, or about 4" square. It's a good basic hoop, and there's a lot you can do with a 4x4 hoop. That said, there are also a lot of things that you can't do.

The most obvious, of course, is stitch a design that's larger than 100mm square. Depending on what you want to do, this can be fine, or it can ruin all your plans. There are ways to work around this; for example, you can use embroidery software to cut a larger design into smaller pieces and stitch them one at a time. However, aligning the pieces correctly can be a challenge, especially for a beginner.

You'll find that having access to a slightly bigger hoop, even just a 5x7, can open up a whole new world of embroidery. On the other hand, a machine with the capacity for larger hoops tend to be noticeably pricier. If you're not willing to commit to a more expensive machine when you're just starting out, a 4x4-hoop machine is perfect for learning a new skill. In the end, it comes down to what you hope to do with your machine and how quickly you want to be able to expand the size of your stitchouts.

Note: Most entry-level machines have a maximum embroidery field of 4x4; purchasing a larger hoop separately will not allow you to stitch larger designs.

Q How many stabilizers do I really need to get started?

A Technically, you only need one—whatever you need for your first project! But if you want to be able to try out different techniques and fabrics while you learn, you'll probably want to have a few options on hand. I suggest starting with a mediumweight version of each of the big three: cut-away, tear-away and water-soluble. If you need more support than mediumweight offers, you can always use multiple layers.



Cut-away is a great all-purpose stabilizer; it's what you'll want to use when embroidering t-shirts, sweatshirts, most garments and projects where the wrong side of the embroidery won't be seen. Get something that's fairly soft if it's going to be against the skin. If you want to do any in-the-hoop projects, tear-away is a must, and you might find you prefer it to cut-away for some other projects as well. As long as the tear-away stands up to the stitching, they're fairly fungible, at least on stable woven fabric. The stretchier or less stable the fabric, the more important it is to use cut-away.

Water-soluble is the right choice when both sides of a project will be visible and also for special projects like freestanding lace. Look for the type that looks like fabric, not like plastic film. It will stand up much better to stitching. Also make sure to read the description; some water-soluble stabilizers are a combination of water-soluble and non-water-soluble fibers,

and you want to make sure you're picking the right one for your projects. I suggest going with fully water-soluble to start, as it's more versatile.

If I were putting together a Beginner's Stabilizer Kit, there are two more things I'd add. If you think you're going to want to embroider on anything with a nap or loft, such as fleece, terrycloth or velvet, you'll need a topper to keep the stitches from sinking in. It's not great under fabric, but vital on top of napped or lofty fabrics. It comes in water-soluble and heat-soluble; pick whichever makes most sense to you. I'd also include a can of temporary spray adhesive for when something can't be hooped. I personally prefer self-adhesive stabilizer, but if you're just starting out, the same spray adhesive can be used with any stabilizer you already have.




What kind of projects would you recommend for someone getting started with machine embroidery?

A The best way to get started with machine embroidery is to focus on the embroidery first. Even if you're an accomplished sewist, it's to your benefit to master the basics of the new skill before combining them.

Before beginning any project, I recommend starting out with a few test stitches. Find some stable quilting cotton (fat quarters are cheap and work great for this), hoop it with some cut-away stabilizer, choose a built-in design on your machine and stitch it out. This will give you a feel for the process and give you a chance to marvel at the really cool process that is machine embroidery. You'll also be able to confirm that you're threading the machine correctly and everything's working as it should.

After you feel comfortable with test stitching, find a blank to embroider on. A "blank" is an existing product that can be embroidered on. A great first place to start is a tea or dish towel. They're flat, so they're easy to hoop, and they don't have

a lot of loft, so they don't require a topper. Consider using water-soluble stabilizer and matching the bobbin and top thread (as opposed to using white bobbin thread) so it looks nice on the wrong side. Or plan to hang it carefully and use white bobbin thread and cut-away or tear-away stabilizer.

Other great projects for beginners include t-shirts (make sure to keep the excess fabric away from the embroidery area!) and bath towels (you'll need a topper for this). Or find an in-the-hoop project to try out. They come with detailed, step-by-step instructions and you're sure to be delighted by the final product. 





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Cat Camo

BY MEG HEALY

Wear an embellished camo jacket as a dress for a big style punch. Accented with a beaded collar and kitty-cat patch, this cargo style is the perfect mix of grunge and fashion to have you entering the season on-trend. For a more warm-weather friendly style, omit the sleeves on your pattern for a cargo vest. Style as a dress or as a light layer with your favorite summer looks.



JACKET PATTERN

Opt for a jacket pattern with pockets, a collar and a belt to cinch in the waist. Sew a size larger to be able to layer over sweaters and achieve a more dramatic effect when belted.

tip

Pattern has no belt or collar?
Draft one yourself!



Kelly Anorak
by Closet Case Patterns



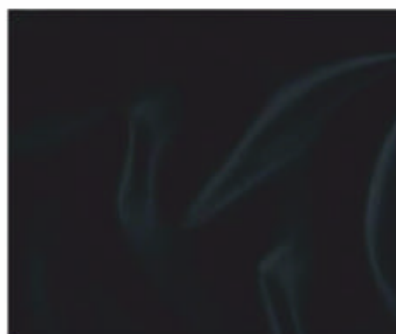
Prue Trench
by Style Arc



Parka
by BurdaStyle (#125 01/2019)

FABRIC COLOR PALETTE

Find a camouflage printed canvas, twill or even cotton to cut the jacket body from, a small piece of contrasting black satin and some complimentary beads – we love lime green!



FINAL TOUCHES

Using extra bits of fabric to create embroidered patches of whatever you like, although this striking black cat is right up our alley. Then further elevate your embroidery with extra beads and sequins to really make your jacket pop! Using beads, create star clusters as an accent on the collar.



Fancy Felines Tuxie Cat
CME exclusive



It's a Match Memory Game Kitty
by Embroidery Library



Reen Wilcoxson of Embroidery Garden

Reen Wilcoxson purchased her first embroidery machine in 1996 after visiting a local sewing store. Reen knew from the start she wanted to create her own designs, and in 2001, she opened Embroidery Garden online. She started with appliqués, but in-the-hoop projects intrigued her. Once she began developing her own patterns, Reen discovered she loved the challenge that came with creating in-the-hoop designs and found her niche in the embroidery world.



How do you stay creative?

I try to design every day. I work in my software or sketch out new ideas in notebooks for future projects and take them with me everywhere. I can jot down anything I see or think of. You never know when an idea may come to you.





What do you love most about the work you do?

The last few years have been busy with traveling and teaching. I've taught my designs around the country at various stores and venues since 2015. I love teaching, meeting and inspiring people to stitch something other than a monogram or a design onto a towel. Many people have never stitched in-the-hoop designs or they are scared to try. Once they take one of my classes, most people are amazed at what they can do with their embroidery machine. My classes go over well because I offer useful designs that the attendees will go home and stitch over and over again.

Where do you draw inspiration?

Inspiration comes from all around me. I look at everything, trying to picture a way to create it in the hoop or develop a new technique from what I see. Like all designers, I look through magazines, talk to my customers and follow trends to find ideas for future projects.

What's your favorite thing you've designed?

I love to design bags, purses and accessories. Some of my favorites are the ones I created using cork fabric that's been cut using an electronic cutting machine.

What are your favorite current trends in machine embroidery?

It has to be in-the-hoop designs. They will always be trending in machine embroidery. So many things can be created using this technique, and I think people love to see what new things they can stitch and achieve a professional finished item even when they can't stitch a straight line. 🧵

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Visit embroiderygarden.com for more info or find Embroidery Garden on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

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contributors



ramona baird

("In the Hoop: Bouquet Tags"—page 14) is a freelance designer, digitizer, writer and educator. With an AAS in Fashion Design, Ramona drafts project patterns and also creates three-dimensional embroidery designs. In addition to being a regular contributor, Ramona designs projects for EmbroideryDesigns.com, RNK Distributors and Loralie Designs.



nancy fiedler

("Quilt This: Heirloom Look Embroidery"—page 17) has served as an Educator for Janome America for 14 years and designs and writes from her studio in Dwight, Illinois, with the help of her cat Jon Snow and dog Beckett.

michele mishler

("Dorm Décor" — page 28)

katie vardijan

("Patio Posh" — page 54)



stacy schlyer

("Boho Baby"—page 34, "Pocket Full of Poppies"—page 24 & "Fiesta Set"—page 50) is a self-taught seamstress and self-proclaimed fabric junkie whose goal is to reach SABLE (Stash Accumulation Beyond Life Expectancy). She lives in Kansas with her family and blogs about her sewing adventures daily. stacysews.com



bianca springer

("Summer Montage Skirt"—page 41 and "Cork Cuff"—page 47) is a native of The Bahamas who learned to sew at her mother's side. She now resides in Pearland, TX with her husband, daughter and son. They all serve as endless inspiration for fabric experimentation and hand-embroidery designs. She teaches group and private sewing to anyone willing to learn. thanksimadethem.blogspot.com



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